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COMMENT OF THE DAY

France's Weakness

A CONSTITUTIONAL reform, based on the recommendations resulting from two and a half years study by a Parliamentary commission, was passed by the French Assembly last week. It has still to go before the Upper House and will not do so before the autumn. The reform is a minor one and amounts to tinkering with what was from the beginning a bad job. It will be just as easy as before to bring about the downfall of a Government, though it may be slightly more difficult to prevent a new one being formed. A Prime Minister designate will in future need only a simple majority—which several of the candidates in the recent crisis achieved. He will no longer need to submit himself twice for investiture, first alone and later with his Cabinet, but only after forming his Cabinet. Though this may reduce the length of the period during which France is left without a Government, Governments when formed may have rather less support than they do at present. When a Prime Minister designate had to win an absolute majority it was possible to defeat him by abstention. Now it will be necessary to vote against him. This may make a difference, since deputies have shown a notable tendency to prefer more or less covert obstruction—typified in abstention—to taking a definite stand.

The 1946 Constitution pleased nobody greatly, but it succeeded in giving the Assembly as a whole power over any Government and any party. The possibility should be recognised that the alternative might have to be a strong-arm regime. Constitutional reform, like electoral reform, is in a sense a confession of failure and is very apt to be an illusion. The social structure and the various economic interests—in a democratic country produce a party system which will operate in a similar way and bring about similar results under any of the feasible Constitutions. The range of Constitutional variety is essentially restricted and no Constitutional reform is possible which prevents the underlying forces from finding expression. Only a revolution, resulting from intolerable deadlock, may produce a very different situation.

FRANCE has not nearly reached that stage, but she is in a condition such that fundamental problems cannot be tackled and the country stagnates. Her natural wealth produces the illusion that this does not really matter, but the illusion is wearing thin. Her weakness and division at home lead to a disastrous weakness abroad. To introduce decisiveness and the ability to make hard decisions into French political life cannot be done by Constitutional reform. But it is possible to foresee one way in which party groupings might be consolidated and stabilised. If international events made possible a re-entry of the Communists into the normal Parliamentary interplay of parties, there would be a tendency towards two large groups. Till now the normal working of French political institutions has been thrown out of gear by the Kremlin and the natural reaction to its French agents, for whom 25 per cent of the electorate vote. But this might not last if the Cold War unfroze. This is, of course, a remote prospect, but it is certain that nothing would so successfully revive French political life and end the public apathy which is the worst enemy of Governments today.

Kashmir Crisis: Police Fire On Crowds

DEMONSTRATORS THROW STONES One Man Killed: 31 Arrested

Srinagar, Aug. 10. Steel-helmeted armed police patrolled the streets of Srinagar last night after police and militia opened fire to disperse stone-throwing demonstrators, who shouted slogans against the new Government of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed. One man was reported killed in the disturbances, which followed the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah, Premier of Kashmir.

Arrested with Abdullah were Mir Afzal Beg, Revenue Minister; Jankinath Zutshi, Director-General of Information; Ghulam Mohammed Ashai, Registrar of Kashmir University, and Sham Lal Saraf, Director of the Visitors Bureau. In all 31 people were rounded up.

Children were among people who formed processions after the arrest of Sheikh Abdullah, which took place at the mountain resort of Gulmarg, southwest of Srinagar.

An official spokesman said he had been taken into custody under the Public Security Act to prevent him acting in a prejudicial manner and pursuing a policy of disruption.

Abdullah was charged with "disruptionism", nepotism, maladministration, and establishing foreign controls of a kind dangerous to the peace and prosperity of the state.

He is to be imprisoned in a palace in the Udhampur district of Jammu. A police superintendent climbed up to the mountain resort of Gulmarg to arrest him.

The new Premier, Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, told the Kashmir people in a broadcast last night that Sheikh Abdullah had been aiming at an independent Kashmir with the connivance of "foreign Powers".

He said: "The democratic element in the State has been consistently fighting for autonomy within the Indian Union. But efforts are now afoot to bring about conditions in which this objective will perish."

There are elements at work today for a merger of the state with Pakistan or India—in the midst of the ensuing confusion some opportunistic elements are dangling the alluring picture of an "independent state" before the people.

Bakshi said disruptive forces were making desperate attempts to disintegrate the State. "The activities and utterances of our erstwhile colleagues make it clear that they have been thinking in terms of carving out a portion of the state from the wreckage as an independent state."

"These moves have naturally the connivance and support of interested foreign Powers, who have all along been resisting the exercise of the right of the Kashmir people to freedom and self-determination."

An independent Kashmir under the influence of an imperialist Power will be a grave threat to the freedom and independence of the Indian or Pakistan people.

Bakshi did not name any "foreign Power" with whom Sheikh Abdullah had "connived," but it has been widely rumored here and in New Delhi recently that Mr. Adlai Stevenson, the American Democratic leader, had suggested "the possibility of American dollar aid to an independent Kashmir."

He joined the anti-Maharajah agitation with Abdullah in the 30's and was gaoled four times. When the "Quit Kashmir" movement, demanding the removal of the Maharajah, reached a new height, Bakshi was working underground as one of the chief organisers.

There were no signs of any major rift between the two leaders until early this year when Abdullah began making speeches critical of Kashmir's link up with India.

Bakshi, whose family lost many members during ruler attacks in 1947, felt Kashmir, having thrown her lot in with India, must go ahead and accept economic help.

Abdullah, on the other hand, veered more and more toward the idea of independence for Kashmir.

Bakshi rallied around him a majority in Cabinet and party to accept Indian aid to prevent an economic collapse in the valley.

Abdullah, outnumbered, tried to postpone the elections to the Constituent Assembly.

The Kashmiris were killed at once, Tajpal Sharma died later in hospital, France-Press.

(Contd. on Back Page Col. 2)

Stalling Tactics By Russia

London, Aug. 9. Informed diplomatic sources in London said today that the Soviet Union appeared to be stalling on a top level Big Four conference because it was unwilling to commit itself to a firm policy toward the West.

The Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, also has this impression, the sources said.

Sir Winston was reliably reported to be disappointed by Russia's lack of response to a four-power invitation. But the sources said he had not dropped the idea of top-level talks, although his advisers believed he now preferred to wait before making another move.

The Premier is aware of the strong American opposition to the idea of a Bermuda conference with Soviet leaders and the United States' position is unlikely to change before the Communists show some signs of sincerity in the Korean political talks.

But if the Korean talks go well the diplomatic sources said, the idea of a Bermuda conference with President Eisenhower, the French Premier, Joseph Laniel, and Sir Winston may be revived. The meeting was postponed last month because of Sir Winston's illness.

THREE REASONS

The United States, Britain and France will send representatives to Paris to begin drafting a reply to the Kremlin's virtual rejection of a proposed Big Four Foreign Ministers meeting, the sources said. They said the British believed there were three reasons behind the Soviet's recent stalling tactics on the matter of a high-level Big Four meeting. They were:

1. The new Soviet government has not settled down yet. Reports reaching here today said the Soviet Communist government was handicapped because its leaders distrusted one another.

2. Moscow has not reached a final decision of its German policy and therefore sought to delay and confuse the German issue as long as possible.

3. The uneasiness in East Germany and continued trouble in East Berlin is compelling Moscow to concentrate on this immediate problem and to settle the future course before tackling broader issues.—United Press.

Unidentified Gunman Kills Indian Customs Official

Nairobi, Aug. 9. An unknown African gunman yesterday shot and killed Tajpal Sharma, an Indian Customs Department officer, and an African sitting in a nearby car.

Walking with his wife in a busy African residential district here, Sharma remonstrated with an African on a bicycle who ran into him. They were immediately surrounded by a crowd of threatening Africans.

During the melee shots were fired by an unidentified person

By Yawl To New Zealand



Lieutenant Benjamin Pester, aged 28, of the Royal New Zealand Navy has been on a course in England and is going to sail to his home in New Zealand in a 50-year-old 39-ft. yawl "Torri II". Special leave has been granted to him and the journey is expected to take about nine months. He is taking one assistant with him.—London Express.

GOVT HAULS DOWN ITS COLOURS

Paris, Aug. 9. The French Government today virtually abandoned its attempt to force civil servants to accept a later age for their pension rights.

Among the 19 economy decrees announced tonight the one referring to civil service pensions which provoked the strike of 2,000,000 Government employees last week indicated only that in future so-called active employees would have the option of continuing to work for two more years beyond the official pension age, in all other respects the conditions for pensions remain unchanged.

For so-called sedentary employees the present pension age is 60 after 30 years' service with the option of continuing to work until 65.

For the so-called active employees the retiring age is 55 after 25 years' service, with the option to continue working until 60. This latter category which includes postmen and school teachers may now if they so wish, go on working until the age of 62.

The news of the Government's decision brought cries of astonishment from a room full of French journalists awaiting eagerly to know whether the Government would face the threatened storm of protests against a proposal to force state employees to accept a later retiring age than that provided for at present. The assumption that this was the Government's intention was the main cause of last week's strike movement and of that of the Post Office workers who were still on strike today.

It was assumed that the strike movement has now been warded off.

The full French Cabinet met tonight to give final approval to the decrees as worked out by the Finance Ministry.

Trade Unions had demanded the withdrawal of the controversial decrees raising the retiring age, seeking 4,000 temporary civil servants, and raising rents.

The Posts and Communications Ministry said in a communique tonight that all postal workers who today failed to report for duty after receiving orders to return to work, would be dismissed tomorrow.

The communique added that mail destined for abroad would be accepted tomorrow at the eight main Paris post offices.

(Contd. on Back Page Col. 2)

US Plane, With 36 Aboard, Crashes Into Sea FIVE REPORTED RESCUED

Rome, Aug. 9. An American "flying boxcar" with 36 persons aboard crashed today in the Tyrrhenian Sea off the island of Ustica, 40 miles north-northwest of Palermo, Sicily, the United States air attaché in Rome reported.

In Wiesbaden, Germany, a US Air Force spokesman said one survivor had been picked up by an American rescue plane from Bordeaux, France.

In London, an Air Force spokesman said five survivors had been rescued but he had no further details.

Colonel Emmett Cassidy, air attaché in the Embassy here, said an Italian air force plane had spotted the C-119 down in the sea near Ustica. He said the plane was believed to have been flying from Udine, North Italy, to Tripoli, Libya, on the North African coast when it crashed. The plane was still afloat when spotted.

The Air Force said the plane was believed to have been stationed in Germany. Wiesbaden headquarters said the plane had last been reported over Rome last night and "everything seemed to be all right then."

Wiesbaden listed 24 crew members and passengers aboard the plane but could not explain the discrepancy between this figure and the 36 reported from Rome.

Wiesbaden said the first survivor picked up was rescued by one of ten Grumman amphibian four-day battle in mountainous seas off Cape Leeuwin. The towline broke in the storm.

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Death March Toll

Britannia Camp, Aug. 9. A 6-foot 2 inches former Sydney policeman said today four Australians and a handful of Britons were among Allied prisoners of war who survived a Communist death march early in 1951.

He said 700 POWs set out on a march from Pyongyang and only 140 reached a prison camp on the Yalu River.

The Australian is Private Thomas Hollis, 27, of 31, Marlton Street, Enmore, New South Wales, captured in January 1951, while on patrol southeast of Seoul.

The Communists returned him to freedom today together with Private Keith R. Gwyther of Leongatha, Victoria. The other two Australians on the march were Private Bob Parker of Maroubra, New South Wales and Corporal Donald Buck of Burwood, New South Wales, both liberated on Thursday.

Hollis was continuing with his account of the march when a British intelligence officer sitting by him motioned him not to say any more.

Hollis said conditions improved when the column reached prison camp on the Yalu and the food got better. They settled down to a routine of reveille at 5.30 a.m. followed by exercises and breakfast at 8 a.m.

Breakfast was usually rice and beans and hot water.

Sometimes in the mornings there were indoctrination classes and in the afternoon work details or sport.

Hollis said none of the Australian POWs for the Chinese propaganda, though some of other nationalities did.

SAV DOORFIGHT

Both Australians related today looked unburned and well and showed no signs of the hard treatment they had suffered.

Both proudly wore new Australian greens and were fully equipped down to their slouch hats.

Hollis had already made a start bending his hat into the usual digger shape.

Gwyther pulled away happily on a new Red Cross pipe, he was breaking in while he described the highlight of his stay in camp. This was the day a Communist MIG jet was shot down by an American Sabre jet over the camp during a sports meeting.

"We were having what the Chinese called Olympics last November," Gwyther said, "when an American Sabre got on the tail of an MIG and gave it a burst. Everything stopped while we watched. The MIG zoomed up then came down out of control until 10,000 feet and another Sabre got in two or three good bursts."

"When we last saw it it was losing height and disappeared behind some hills. I was standing beside an Australian pilot and he was fighting it out up there every inch of the way," Reuter.

ANN DAVISON SAILS

Nassau, Aug. 9. Mrs Ann Davison, 38-year-old British housewife, left the Bahamas today in her 23-foot yacht, Felicity Ann, for Miami.

She arrived here last month after sailing the Atlantic alone. She left Plymouth, England, in May 1952 and reached here a year later. Four years ago her husband was swept off their yacht beginning an attempt to cross the Atlantic. Mrs Davison then declared she would undertake the voyage alone.

When she reaches Miami, Mrs Davison intends to spend a few days there before going on to New York, Reuter.

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Labour Party Facing Awkward Situation At Annual Conference

CLASH BETWEEN VETERAN LEADERS

London, Aug. 10. The Labour Party will face an embarrassing situation at its annual delegates conference next month when two veteran right-wing leaders oppose each other for a key post on the National Executive, the party's ruling body.

The rivals are Mr Herbert Morrison, 65, Deputy Opposition leader of Parliament, and Mr Arthur Greenwood, 73, currently Party Chairman and for many years its honorary treasurer.

Mutual Dread Of Elections In Japan

Tokyo, Aug. 10.

Parliamentary government has begun to function in Japan this summer, simply because the rival parties—and their funds—are too exhausted to face a new election in the immediate future.

Although to many, this may seem a strange basis for successful democracy in a modern, highly developed State, it is, in practice, a considerable improvement on the situation last March, when the Prime Minister, Mr Shigeru Yoshida, was unable to get any major laws passed.

Political observers then feared that as democracy was failing to work, Japan might return to some non-democratic form of government.

The trouble was that politicians were putting their personal ambitions and enmities before either party or country.

Mr Yoshida's Government, fell in March not because of any serious dispute about policy but because of personal rivalries split his party into rival factions.

But it now appears that Japanese politicians have learned that personal feuds are inconvenient and expensive, as well as being politically disastrous.

Mr Yoshida has not even a majority in the Diet today, he is at last heading a Government which can get work done.

STRONG WHIP

The main reason is that none of the main parties want another general election for the present. They simply cannot afford it. Electioneering is an expensive business, as is shown by the fact that after this year, for instance, more than 10,000 persons were charged with canvassing offices, mainly buying votes.

Mr Yoshida therefore has a strong whip in his hand—his right to dissolve the Diet whenever he sees fit and so cause a new election.

While his own Liberal Party is not eager to go to the polls again, it has the financial backing of big business and so could command more funds than any of its rivals, Reuter.

Schuman Going To U.N.

Paris, Aug. 9. The French Cabinet tonight designated Mr. Foreign Minister, M. Maurice Schuman, as chief of the French delegation to the Special Assembly of the United Nations.

The Assembly, which is to take up the Korean question, will meet in New York on August 17, France-Press.

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Continuation Of Prosperity In U.S. Forecast

Chicago, Aug. 9. Former Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder said last night that despite talk of a recession, the signs point to a continuation of prosperity.

Mr Snyder said the war in consumer buying is not due to any lack of money in the hands of consumers.

Personal savings total US\$220,000,000,000, he said, providing a backlog of purchasing power that offsets "strong" protection against any sharp decline in retail sales in the immediate future. — United Press.

PERSIANS OFFER TO PAY IN OIL

Baghdad, Aug. 9.

The Iranian Government has offered payment in oil instead of money to international companies now engaged in public works in Iran, according to reports from representatives of reputable foreign firms in Iraq.

Several companies were reported to be studying the offer but the main problem remained as to how to avoid litigation by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

The payment would be made in crude oil delivered in Abadan at half the price of the international quotation for Persian Gulf crude oil.

This company approached with this offer were reported to be searching for reputable shipping firms to take out the oil in tankers.

Two representatives of an important French public works firm were reported to be discussing the problem in Iran with Iranian oil representatives.

Italian companies might also be persuaded to market the oil, it was felt, as they had previously taken out tankers carrying Iranian crude oil. — France-Press.

Accused's Alleged Admission

Paris, Aug. 9.

The Communist News Agency today said that Li Sung-Yup, one of the chief accused in the recent purge trial of North Korean leaders, had admitted making contact with an air force intelligence officer of the United States Far East Command in February, 1950.

The agency was making its first report on the Pyongyang trial in which Li Sung-Yup, former secretary of the North Korean Workers Party, was sentenced to death together with his eight co-accused, on charges of espionage.

The Communist agency added that the indictment had pointed out that the American imperialist plan for the northward advance was aimed not only at invading the Korean Democratic People's Republic, but also at invading the Soviet Union and China. — France-Press.

The agreement was signed yesterday at Peking by Shu Huchan, Red China's Vice-Minister for Foreign Trade, and the chief of the German diplomatic mission to Peking, Paul Schunhagen. — United Press.

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Chicago Gets A Shock

Not As Civilised As It Thought

Chicago, Aug. 10. Chicago swelled with pride last February, 27 over this news item: "There are 1,360,000 television sets in Chicago and its suburbs. This is an over 100,000 more than the number of bath tubs."

This statement fed the city's self-satisfaction at its modern conditions of life. It gave proof of the city's high standard of living.

Exactly one month later, on March 27, however, there came this news item: "Data showed to death a nine-month-old girl as she lay in her crib."

The Chicago "Daily News" pursued the report further. It discovered that the girl which killed the baby, Lottie Mae Cronshaw, a Negro, were bad enough to show her to death because of the slum conditions to which Lottie was born.

Then came the question of why such slum exist in Chicago, the city of so many television sets and bath tubs.

Eleven "Daily News" reporters investigated nothing else for months.

The result was an exposure of conditions which made the city grim.

DAILY SHOCKERS

Nothing was printed until ten articles were ready, but each article, brood others. Daily "shockers" are in the news-paper.

Among other things it was discovered that:

1. Lottie Mae's rat bite death was unusual only because it was fatal. Fifty-seven other rat bite cases have been reported so far in 1953 and there is no telling how many have gone unreported. Rat holes are commonplace in photographs.

"Rats" have, falling through that hole up there while no took a bath, one slum tenant said, while another remarked, "The way rats take over a building, you'd think they were paying the rent."

2. Buildings everywhere marked the filthiness into which were crowded many times more persons than they were designed to house. Community toilets, which overflowed or did not flow at all, were repeatedly reported, while garbage, for which landlords made no provision, littered, unlighted passageways. Linoleum troughs were found suspended from the ceiling as protection against flushed material, from toilets on the floor above. — China Mail Special.

Jet Planes In Taiwan

Taipei, Aug. 9. The Nationalist air force will stage its first jet air show on Air Force Day on August 14, when some 20 Thunderbolts will participate.

The jets, which were delivered last week, were recently put on the United States as part of the American military assistance programme in Taiwan, will hold island-wide tactical manoeuvres as one phase of the Air Force Day celebrations. — France-Press.

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LA VRENTI BERIA'S FATE MATTER FOR SPECULATION

Russian Premier Keeping The World Guessing

London, Aug. 9.

The Soviet Prime Minister, Georgi Malenkov, in his policy declaration to the Supreme Soviet in Moscow yesterday, steered clear of answering two questions the world is asking: will ex-police chief Lavrenti P. Beria be put on trial? If so, when?

Malenkov, in a short cryptic reference to Beria, told the 1,300 assembled deputies that this "master-agent of imperialism has been exposed and rendered harmless."

The question is now whether Malenkov and his colleagues consider it a wise course to put Beria on trial.

They may decide to keep him in the background as a kind of "villain of the piece" and not stage a trial of the kind which would remind the Russian people only too vividly of the horrors of pre-war purge trials.

If, as many observers believe, the Soviet Army is behind the move which toppled Beria from power, the Army may be satisfied with his removal from office and his being "rendered harmless" and may not press for a full-scale trial.

At present the answers to the above questions are hypothetical. In the appointment of General Roman Rudenko, who was Soviet Chief Prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trial, as the new Prosecutor-General of the Soviet Union, some may see an indication that he has been selected to take charge of the case against Beria.

But his appointment, together with two new members of the Supreme Court, may very easily be routine.

Salonov, the previous Prosecutor-General, had held office for several years.

AMAZING ASPECT

The Supreme Court in any case numbers over 70 members. To Western eyes one of the most remarkable features of the four-day Supreme Soviet session just ended was the very little reference made to Beria. Malenkov referred to the subject yesterday rather as an aside during the course of his policy statement.

From the beginning to the end of this session, the Beria affair seemed to have been accepted by the Deputies as an accomplished fact beyond argument or discussion.

At the last Supreme Soviet session, held on March 15, Beria himself—then number two in the hierarchy—formally proposed appointment of Malenkov as Prime Minister.

Yesterday the Deputies, without discussion, unanimously approved a decree removing him from Government office and confirmed his classification as "an enemy of the people."

In nearly all respects, the Supreme Soviet session just ended took the pattern of Stalin's era.

A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- Deprive of weapons (6).
 - Feel (3).
 - Relieved (5).
 - Stringed instrument (6).
 - Of first importance (5).
 - Bolt securing metal plates (5).
 - Slender (4).
 - Garments (5).
 - Humiliated (6).
 - Ventures (5).
 - Chino (4).
 - Darken (6).
 - Commonplace (5).
 - Related (6).
 - Presses (5).
 - Makes indistinct (5).
 - Verbed (6).
- DOWN**
- Assimilated (8).
 - Sword (3).
 - Bring up (4).
 - Sea-soldiers (7).
 - Cut apart (7).
 - Press chief (6).
 - Not fresh (6).
 - Do good to (5).
 - Withdrawn from the world (8).
 - Slices of bacon (7).
 - Green (7).
 - Rouse oneself (6).
 - Month (5).
 - Besides (4).

SATURDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1. Remits, 6. High, 8. Rent, 9. Candid, 11. Usage, 12. Demand, 14. Name, 15. Party, 16. Little, 19. Stay, 20. Earned, 24. Delet, 25. Taker, 26. When, 27. Steel, 28. Defend, Down: 1. Back, 2. Mind, 3. Time, 4. Solid, 5. Student, 6. Ganany, 7. Swelter, 10. Debut, 13. Alludes, 15. Starke, 16. General, 17. Ease, 18. Sprid, 21. Name, 22. Done, 23. Stand.

Princess At A Wedding



West To Make Assessment Of Kremlin's Intentions

MALENKOV'S SPEECH LIFTS THE VEIL

London, Aug. 9.

The team of Western diplomats who meet shortly to reply to Russia's call for a conference to ease world tension will make full use of M. Georgi Malenkov's latest international review in assessing Soviet intentions, diplomatic quarters said today.

The Russian Prime Minister's address to the Supreme Soviet yesterday contained important clarifications of Soviet policy aims obscured in the note which Moscow sent to Britain, France and the United States last Wednesday.

The note answered a Western invitation to a September meeting of Foreign Ministers to discuss German elections and the treaty for Austria. It said the Ministers should tackle the overall problem of Germany and ways of relaxing the cold war. China should be in the conference for the latter item, it said.

M. Malenkov's address seems to establish beyond all doubt that he is not prepared to negotiate on isolated problems, largely on the choosing of the Western powers.

Instead, he seeks a conference to get to grips with the major world problems simultaneously. This is a proposal which the Western powers, themselves, made in 1951, but negotiations men an agenda ending in deadlock following the Russian delegate's denunciation of the North Atlantic Pact.

Yesterday M. Malenkov again picked on the Atlantic Alliance as the "main threat to world peace" and demanded that the West abandon "its plans to integrate a rearmament West Germany into a United Europe. He scorned the argument that the inclusion of the Bonn Republic in a European Defence Community was necessary to preserve European peace.

All this suggests that even if the Western Powers were prepared to agree to a conference to try and reach a global settlement with the Soviet Union, which they are not in present circumstances, the meeting would have little chance of success.

At their forthcoming meeting, probably in Paris, the Western diplomats are likely to reaffirm their stand that it is for Moscow to prove its sincerity by accepting one of the principles which the Allies regard as vital to a satisfactory settlement of world problems.

NOT SUFFICIENT

The Communist agreement to the Korean truce is not sufficient proof they said. They must await the forthcoming Korean political conference before assessing Russian intentions and deciding on the admission of Communism to the United Nations.

The Western Powers hope that Russia might sign the independence treaty for Austria as an earnest sign of her desire for peace. Sweden, to zero after Malenkov's statement that he regards the settlement of this issue as dependent upon agreement on the bigger problem of Germany.

One heartening aspect of M. Malenkov's speech was his promise to "continue" efforts to relax world tension, it is felt here.

This, together with his omission of Stalin's name in dealing with foreign affairs, suggests that M. Malenkov may still be ready to turn his back on the policies of his predecessor in order to find an accommodation with the West.

Unfortunately, officials here say, the tone of both last week's Russian note and M. Malenkov's address inter that Russian foreign policy is back where it stood after the last meeting of the Supreme Soviet. Stalin attended in October 1952.

GREAT DISPLAY

Moscow, Aug. 9. The Russian press and radio today gave great prominence to the address made by the Prime Minister, M. Georgi Malenkov, to the joint session of the Supreme Soviet yesterday.

All Moscow papers carried from page pictures of M. Malenkov delivering his speech and a full text of the speech, which occupied three pages.

Long queues formed at newsstands in the city and the radio sold out of copies of Malenkov's speech, which was broadcast through the airwaves.

Pravda, the Communist Party paper, made a leading feature of the speech, without giving editorial comment.

The news agency, Tass, said that the speech was "a serious low. Transport breakdowns prevent the movement of urgently-needed food."

The Russians are taking as few chances as possible. Their troops are ready to intervene instantly in case of new trouble.

Striking Similarity Noted

Vienna, Aug. 9.

Political observers who have made a special study of the Communist Southeast European States were struck by similarities between the speech of Georgi Malenkov to the Supreme Soviet yesterday and the speech of the new Premier of Hungary Imre Nagy, to the Hungarian Parliament on July 4.

They pointed out that Nagy had also stressed the past over-investment in heavy industry, the need to devote more funds and attention to agriculture (food production) and the production of more and better consumer goods, and the need to raise the standard of living of the working people.

The same tendency had also been expressed in Czechoslovakia and to a lesser degree in Rumania. In all these three States the same tendency to demand better quality and more foodstuffs and consumer goods had been constantly expressed in press and speeches during the last month.

It was not unreasonable therefore, the observers stated, to suggest that the same troubles had developed in the Soviet Union as in those States whose economic life had been modelled on that of the Soviet Union and that the new policy was intended to remedy similar troubles in these States.

It would appear that this revolution in the economic development in the Communist States, now reflected also in that of the Soviet Union, had two main reasons:

1. The growing dissatisfaction of the people with the shortages of foodstuffs and consumer goods and their bad quality, modelled on that of the Soviet Union and that the new policy was intended to remedy similar troubles in these States.

2. The fear of an economic crisis due to the troubles in Korea. Just as in the Western States it had been feared there might be a sudden cessation of orders for arms and munitions, so also in the Soviet Union and the South-east European countries, measures had to be taken to prevent a similar crisis, due to the switch-over to some extent from war industry to peace.—Reuter.

Reception In Moscow

Paris, Aug. 9.

The Soviet news agency Tass reported from Moscow today that Soviet Minister for Internal and External Trade, Mikoyan, gave a reception last night in honour of the Chinese industry and agricultural exhibition.

The President of the Presidium of the Soviet Chamber of Commerce, M. Nestorov, was co-host and the guests included staff members from the Chinese Embassy in Moscow, organisers of the exhibition and Soviet Ministers.—France Press.

Franksters At Westminster

London, Aug. 9.

Three new flags fluttered from the Houses of Parliament today—the work of an unknown climber who scaled the 340-foot high Victoria Tower during the night to tie them to the turret.

The flags—a six feet by three feet Union Jack, a blue pennant with a white design, and a maroon banner (swallow-tail flag) with blue edges and the sun and moon in white—are believed by the police to have been placed there by a student or students, who climbed scaffolding to reach the top of the tower.

Police removed the flags.—Reuter.

DULLES MISSION A FAILURE?

Tokyo, Aug. 9.

Mr John Foster Dulles, the United States Secretary of State, has failed to persuade the Japanese Premier, Mr Shigeru Yoshida, to launch a full-scale drive to increase Japan's defence force, Government sources indicated today.

Mr Dulles was stated to have explained in his talks with Premier Yoshida the American Government's views on defence, and stressed that after acceptance of Mutual Security Aid Japan should bolster her defence forces as quickly as possible.

Government sources said Mr Dulles hinted that America wanted a gradual withdrawal of troops from Japan and stressed that this required a substantial increase in Japan's defence capacity.

Premier Yoshida, according to these sources, did promise Mr Dulles that Japan would improve the quality of the National Safety Corps and progressively bolster Japan's defence capacity, as the economic situation permitted.—France Press.

Prisoners Were Tried After The Armistice

Tokyo, Aug. 9.

American prisoners were tried and sentenced after the armistice to gaol terms ranging from three months to three years, a 21-year-old soldier from Battle Mountain, Nevada, said in a hospital today.

"The last trials were held the day after the armistice signing," Corporal Richard M. Davis, prisoner of the Reds since February 19, 1951, said.

He stated six men were tried on July 28 on various charges including "Ku Klux Klan" activity and "instigating against the peace."

Earlier in his imprisonment the young soldier, who lost 45 lbs during his confinement, said he was twice tortured by the Red Chinese and North Koreans.

"They took me to the office of a Chinese general and he asked me questions about the way American weapons being used in Korea worked," he said. "When I refused to answer they took me outside and beat me with rifle butts."

He explained that after his capture when his Second Division anti-aircraft position was overrun he was herded, with about 1,400 other prisoners, mostly Americans, into a camp.

"Five months later there were only 400 of us left," he said. "They died of starvation, dysentery and plain cold murder."

"Every time a man slipped on the lot or fell he was shot or bayoneted to death by the guards before he could get up,"—United Press.

Negotiations With N.Z.

Wellington, Aug. 9.

Mr Keith Holyoake, Minister of Agriculture, announced today that negotiations on the future of New Zealand's bulk purchase meat agreement with Britain have been opened but further consideration has been deferred while the meat position in the United Kingdom is clarified.

Mr Holyoake today released the text of a letter from the British Minister of Food, Major Lloyd George, turning down a New Zealand request for two years' notice before terminating bulk buying.

"The letter left open an alleged New Zealand proposal that one country's distribution through private traders should be allowed before ending bulk buying,"—Reuter.

Washington, Aug. 10. The Department of Commerce reported today that India's cotton acreage for the 1953-54 season is now estimated at from 500,000 to 17,000,000 acres, about five per cent above last year's survey.

The encouraging forecast is due to satisfactory growing conditions such as good weather and a Department of Foreign Affairs, Bulletin, and United Press.

AMERICA COLUMN

Truman Tries To Save A Fortune

By NEWELL ROGERS

New York. **HARRY TRUMAN** asked why the chairman holds no stock in the company. "Crisply the general replied: 'Company' by-laws do not require it. My investments are in Government bonds. As to what I do with my funds in future it is neither your business, Mr. Gilbert, nor anyone else's."

The ex-President is to get \$210,000 for his memoirs. If he can spread this income over several years he will pay much less tax than if it is classed as one year's income.

The tax men have turned down his first plan, under which he would get \$30,000 this year and the rest in later years.

It is believed President Eisenhower will do all he can for his friend and predecessor, who is not a rich man.

Eisenhower saved £140,000 taxes on his "Crusade in Europe" after the last war—under a law since repealed by Congress.

HARLEM, the New York Negro district, is all out for a Randy Turpin victory over Bobo Olson for the world middleweight championship. The Negroes believe it would bring their idol Sugar Ray Robinson out of retirement, tempted by the possibility of a million dollar "gate" against Turpin.

The Olson-Turpin fight, probably in October, will be in New York or San Francisco, Olson's home town.

A WEEK of daughters have been born in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to Mr and Mrs C. J. Delbridge.

June, now aged eight, was born on a Tuesday; Joan (7) on a Wednesday; Janet (6), Thursday; Joyce (5), Friday; Jennell (2), Saturday; Joeline (3), Sunday; and now Judith, on a Monday.

Sons? Says Attorney Delbridge: "I've given up hope."

ACTRESS Ina Claire is going to London just to see a play. But this is an important bit of show-going for her and for the Broadway producers of Alan Melville's hit "Dear Charles."

For upon what she sees will depend 50-year-old Ina's decision whether or not to appear in the New York production of it.

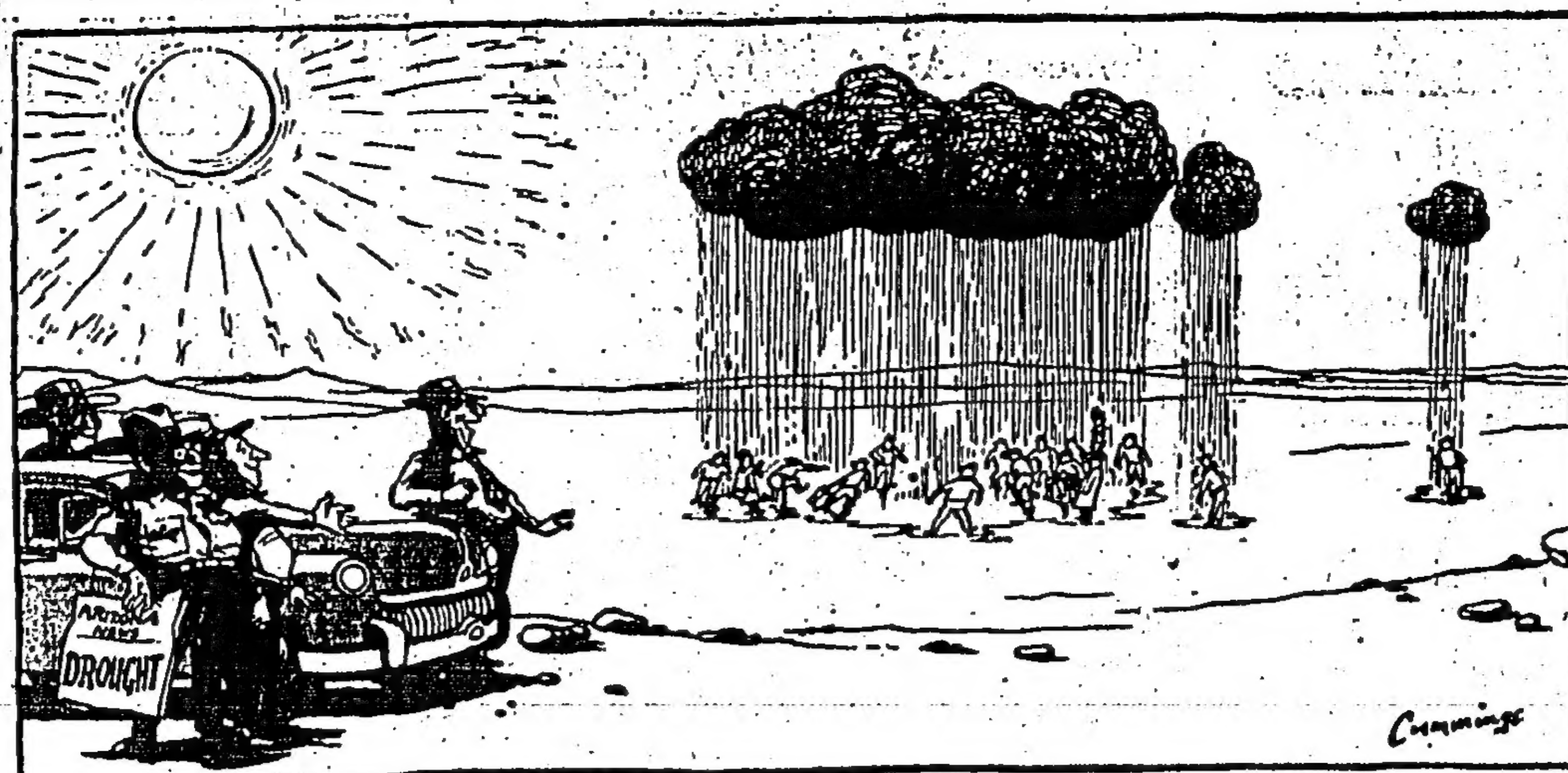
OFF to Northern Greenland go civilian and navy scientists to shoot rockets 55 miles up into the sky from high altitude balloons. They want to measure cosmic rays.

ONE of America's most respected churchmen, Dr John R. Mott, has remarried at the age of 88. His bride: Miss Agnes Peters, aged 73. He was for many years international secretary of the Y.M.C.A., and led in organising the World Council of Churches. He shared the Nobel Peace Prize in 1946 with economist Emily G. Balch.

TOUGH General Douglas MacArthur presided as board chairman at his first meeting of shareholders in Remington Rand Inc., makers of business machines.

Shareholder Lewis Gilbert asked why the chairman holds no stock in the company. "Crisply the general replied: 'Company' by-laws do not require it. My investments are in Government bonds. As to what I do with my funds in future it is neither your business, Mr. Gilbert, nor anyone else's."

HEAT of 99 degrees in Kansas City. But in one street hang signs "No parking unless snow is removed" — because workmen re-surfacing the street run out of simple "No Parking" signs.



"There you are, boys! Importing a Test match sure did the trick."

London Express Service

A KING'S DEATH BOOSTED TELEVISION

By Beverley Baxter, MP

YOU might think that the British people spend their time talking about the vagaries of Russian policy, the result of the Canadian election, the succession to Churchill or even—the weather which sometimes gives us all four seasons in a day. Admittedly all these topics are on the conversational menu but they are not more than hors d'oeuvres to the main dish.

Television... television... television... breaking up families, splitting political parties and inflaming the Church. What are we going to do with this new monster? Above all are we to allow commercialism to get its hands upon it?

Just for a moment, and only for a moment, I want to go to a television set in a room in 1935 when for reasons that do not matter I had temporarily abandoned British Journalism and joined the vast Gaumont British Film Corporation.

Blonde Scot

SOMEWHERE, knocking about in the Corporation, was a big handsome blonde Scot named Baird who had invented a device which he called television. Baird, the dreamer, the dreamy president of Gaumont British, had helped to finance him, but we were too busy making films to bother much about Baird. At any rate he was an inventor

and was automatically looked upon as being half mad. Then one day, in desperation, Baird went to the Chairman of a City company that was about to hold its annual shareholders' meeting. "How would you like to address them from thirty miles away?" asked Baird. "They could see you and hear you perfectly."

The Chairman looked delighted. No doubt the prospect of company chairman addressing stockholders at a safe distance appealed to him. Baird suggested that I should go to the meeting and then tell him what happened.

Intriguing

THE result was both novel and intriguing. We studied the chairman's face and we heard his voice better than if he had been on the platform. One or two newspapers gave it a paragraph and one bothered Baird the dreamer walked the weary road of frustration once more. It is a strange story. He died a poor man. Yet Britain had this invention in her grasp long before any other country.

My first impact with television as an established source of entertainment was on a visit to America after the Hitler war. America had gone television mad and Hollywood was trembling like a leaf in a gale. I asked a New York friend, who had a set, what effect it had had upon his family.

"Quite a lot," he answered. "The children won't go to bed. My wife's going blind and my dog has been to see a psychiatrist." It was not the first time that caricature has had a basis of truth.

In subsequent visits I watched the growth of this cult and have sat for hours studying it. I even went on television with the Editors of News Week and Mercury but it was at eleven thirty at night and we did not disturb any one's slumber.

As usual the British were in no hurry. While they played the control and, therefore, the development of this new device in the hands of the B.B.C. The programmes were short but the demand for sets was increasing all the time at a steady unspectacular pace. Strangely enough it was the burial of King George VI which boosted television from a toy to a necessity. To see the funeral I went to Alexander Korda's offices in Piccadilly at Hyde Park Corner. From the balcony we would have an excellent view of the procession on its way to Paddington Station where the coffin would be carried for the run to Windsor.

The Procession

BUT instead of waiting on the balcony until the funeral music announced the approach of the sad procession Korda had provided us with a television set. We saw the coffin carried out from Westminster Hall and heard the mournful wailing of the Pipers. We saw the four Dukes—Windsor, Edinburgh, Gloucester and Kent—take their places behind the coffin. We saw the crowds en route as the procession made its way to Piccadilly; until we stepped out on the balcony and watched it in reality. And when it turned into Hyde Park we followed it again on the screen to Paddington Station, and we watched the pining little train to Windsor where the good King was laid to rest in the historic chapel.

If from time to time I comment upon the unpredictability of the English character it is partly because they possess a greater flair for pageantry than any other people. And this handling of the Royal Funeral was an example.

How many cameras were used? How did they follow the little train on its mournful journey to Windsor? Who was the organising genius? The technique was superb and the result was that through the death of a King British television was born. And to complete the story our old friend and companion, the normal radio set, was doomed.

So far, however, television had remained under the sole control of the B.B.C. and, as you are aware, we have never enjoyed the doubtful benefits of commercial, sponsored programmes. In fact the British Broadcasting Corporation had achieved an immense prestige as a state monopoly. We never had to listen to Sir Thomas Beecham's orchestra by permission of Beecham's Pills. If "Madame Butterfly" sang for us it was not suggested that she would be even more dainty if she used Pears Soap. We had Dante without dandruff, comedy without cosmetics, and Tchaikovsky without cough cures.

One Employer

ON the other hand it meant that in the realm of radio there was only one employer. The actor, the vocalist, the comedian, the composer, the band leader—if the B.B.C. did not want them they had no alternative source of employment on the air. An immense autocracy, and bureaucracy was established.

"No one will deny that there is a case against such a monopoly in the realm of radio. On the other hand the B.B.C. did much to raise the standards of public taste, and the integrity of their news bulletins won the respect of the whole world. Because of that integrity the B.B.C. played a prominent part in sustaining the confidence and resolution of the European people during the Hitler war."

However, the law of life is change, and a group of active young Tory M.P.s, openly exposing their interests as advertisers or directors of companies making television sets, began a campaign within the Conservative Party. They were what is called a "ginger group" and they did their job well.

Let it be clearly understood that their purpose was not purely for personal gain. As Conservatives they are traditionally against monopolies. And even more are they against State control. With logic on their side they declared that it was ridiculous of the Tory Government to denationalise steel and road transport while maintaining the nationalisation of television entertainment.

Opposite View

I WAS one of half a dozen who took an opposite view, but we were overborne by the fervour of the younger Tories, and the day came when Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, as Home Secretary, was to announce the Government's decision to set up alternative stations for commercial, sponsored programmes.

Herbert Morrison, from the Socialist "Front Bench," made a powerful attack in reply. He

pointed out the menace of television to the habits of the people and especially the young. Since we have only one pair of eyes it would mean a lessening of reading. It would mean the decline of the art of conversation, it would intensify the process of turning us into a race of twiddlers—turning a knob for our entertainment instead of making our own. It would be a menace as well to the living theatre, which is so beloved in England.

American Girl

IN a short speech I said that I agreed with every word that Morrison had uttered and disagreed with everything the Home Secretary had said.

Knowing that it was a risk I mentioned the proudest boast of U.S.A.—the incomparable American girl. She was the fairest, smartest, loveliest of her sex according to American romanticism. "But," I said, "television advertisers the American girl suffers from so many physical defects that only science in its most advanced form keeps her fit for human society. Among her lesser ailments are dandruff, halitosis, body odour."

But out of the corner of my eye I saw Mr Speaker preparing to intervene so I left the rest to the imagination of the House. I finished with these words: "Under American radio advertising there is even a philosophy of fear even to the young men are told that their failure with the other sex is because they do not wear a certain brand of blue shirts. I predict that if the Government brings in commercial programmes it will lower the whole tone of our national life."

It was a vulgar speech, but it had to be. If we were to stop the commercials we had to use shock tactics.

The campaign against the Government's plan spread across the country. The Church gave voice, so did the Universities, so did many of the newspapers. The Government answered that there would be such rigid rules that the advertiser would practically be forbidden to mention anything but the name of his product and that the Church and the Universities, so did many of the newspapers. The Government answered that there would be such rigid rules that the advertiser would practically be forbidden to mention anything but the name of his product and that the Church and the Universities, so did many of the newspapers.

Biggest Blow

BUT the biggest blow to the commercial sponsors was the handling of the Coronation by the B.B.C. It was in the Abbey on that great day and I never saw a camera or an operator, yet the result was so unbelievable that it touched perfection. There came the second blow.

The television film was flown to New York and unfortunately some of it was stopped to allow for the commercial sponsors to mention themselves and their products. This may have meant nothing to the Americans but to link the Coronation with toothpaste shook the British to their vitals. I imagine that the whole incident was exaggerated but as adverse propaganda it played its part.

But the luck of the established B.B.C. monopoly was not ended. In the same week there was the most exciting test match in cricket history between Australia and England, and at Wimbledon there was the tennis full of thrills as a Lyceum melodrama.

Cricket can be duller than a long drawn out sermon but it is the only game where a climax can be unbrokenly sustained for three hours.

This was a five-day match, and on the fifth day England faced disaster. The Australians gathered for the kill—but the English were indomitable. Every ball that was bowled was pregnant with drama. The Baxter family watched it on their television screen and the neighbours must have thought we had gone mad.

New Monster

ONLY a statistician or a magician could say how much abatement there was on that day, and how much it showed down production. But that is just another of the problems that this new monster creates. My only point is that television had won two more championships—at cricket and tennis—and that the sales of sets bounded upwards in their thousands.

I have tried to set this problem before you without bias, and with knowledge that you are becoming increasingly aware of this new mass medium of influence and entertainment.

What worries the thinkers and philosophers of Britain is the creation of a central uniting influence which may rob the nation's life of its infinite variety. Britain is a tiny island yet its character alters every few miles. The Romans occupied Britain with almost no perceptible effect upon the people. The aristocratic Normans conquered the rude Saxons but the only lasting memento of their occupation is the Cockney accent with its dropped H's. That, admittedly, is a theory of my own but as you know full well the French do not pronounce their H's. Therefore it can be argued that the only authentic aristocratic accent in Britain is that of the Cockney.

New Era

THE Yorkshiremen, the Lancastrians, the men of Suffolk and of Devon, the Welsh, the Scots, the Midlanders, the Londoners—they have their individual way of life which defines the centuries. It is what makes existence in these islands a thing of infinite variety.

And now there is approaching an era where we shall sit down at the same time and watch the same programmes on the screen. What is even worse we shall all learn simultaneously about the unsurpassed advantages of this medicine, that soap or those cigarettes.

Nothing can stop or even retard the growth of television, and no one can deny that it will bring companionship to the lonely and comfort to the sick, although young courting couples will and the rubs over have to go to the cinema for a shilling's worth of darkness.

But the light against the commercials will continue to be fought in the hills and on the beaches, in Parliament, the pulpit and the pub. Perhaps in time we shall get used to a healthy young man with an evangelic voice assuring housewives that their linen would be no much brighter if Quik's soap were used... but many of us want to put off the evil day as long as possible.

People's Vote In China

By FRANCIS WATSON

FROM May to October this year is the period for the Chinese local elections at "basic level", the first of four stages towards the emergence of a nationally elected "All-China People's Congress" in pursuance of the electoral law promulgated in Peking at the beginning of March.

In our present ideas of world society, imperfect as it is, every nation has the right to evolve its own form of government; and equally, it is open to any other nation to criticise and compare. In China, itself, though some inaccurate remarks have been made about electoral system in capitalist States, the usual official comparison is with that of Soviet Russia, which the Chinese people are "not yet" ready to adopt in its entirety.

But elsewhere the natural comparison, and surely the most revealing one, is between the electoral experiment now begun in China and that which has already been successfully carried through in India. In both great Asian States large populations are involved, in both cases predominantly agrarian. In both of them considerable numbers of women are enfranchised for the first time. In both of them there have been technical problems to be faced: distances, illiteracy, the need to take account of seasonal farm-work, and so on.

Contribution

The Indian elections, with their orderliness and their evidence of political maturity, made a striking contribution to India's international prestige. What are the Chinese elections likely to teach us?

The Deputy Premier, Teng Hsiao-ping, who publicly introduced the electoral law, made no bones about the results which it is intended to produce. Its purpose is to "heighten the working efficiency of the People's Government at all levels", to strengthen "the links between the People's Government and the people", to "perfect the system of the democratic dictatorship", and so forth.

One might have thought that this was an over-confident forecast of the results of elections based on "universal adult suffrage". But under a system in which "universal suffrage" can only operate in one direction there is no scope for a Gallup Poll. Communists, in short, can be elected in India, but anti-Communists cannot be elected in China. So, at all events, it appears.

For in the first place the suffrage is not universal. Article 4 of the general provisions of the electoral law begins: "Every citizen of the People's Republic of China who has reached the age of 18 shall have the right to elect and to be elected..." Article 5 begins: "The following shall have no right to elect and to be elected and goes on to enumerate (as one might perhaps have guessed) "elements of the landlord class whose status has not yet been changed, according to law", "counter-revolutionaries who have been deprived of political rights according to law", any "others" who "have forfeited their political rights, and finally and rather pathetically, "mentally deficient persons".

Another principle invoked in China's electoral law is that of "one person, one vote". But the weight of the final representation depends on who you are and where you live and what you do. The distribution of seats per head of the population is extremely flexible; and since the object is less to discover the wishes of the people than to promote the construction of a pre-conceived form of society, urban and industrial representation is favoured on the Communist pattern: at the expense of the vast agricultural majority. In sum it works out at one delegate to the All-China Congress per 100,000 townspeople, and only one per 800,000 of the rural voters.

Show of hands

If it is not exactly universal, is it suffrage? Not as that term is commonly understood by those who have struggled for it down the centuries of history. The Chinese law provides for elections at "different levels, from the local government

Significant

Whether all this, in theory, is an appropriate political system for the present state of China is another matter, and infinitely arguable. What seems significant is that such pains should be taken to label the pyramidal product "democratic." For that is a clear admission that democracy is, after all, what people want.

An electoral system is not everything, but history shows that it is a good deal. India, "non-involved" and absorbed by her own problems, from time to time disavows any ambition of political leadership in Asia. But no disavowal is possible when she is the Indian and Chinese electoral experiments can doubt where moral leadership resides.



COLGATE DENTAL CREAM STOPS BAD BREATH AND TOOTH DECAY BEST!



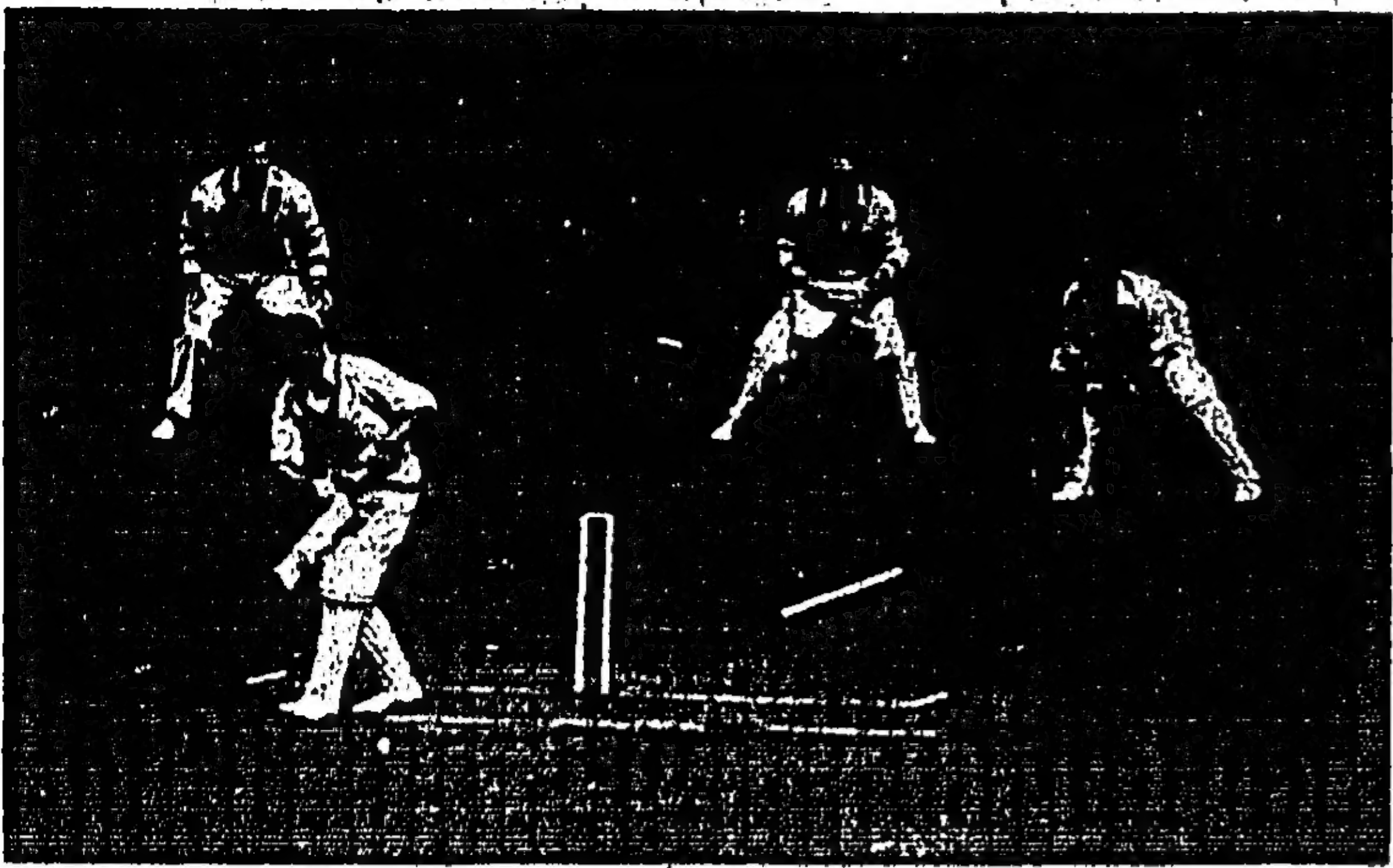
COLGATE DENTAL CREAM INSTANTLY STOPS BAD BREATH IN 7 OUT OF 10 CASES THAT ORIGINATE IN THE MOUTH.

Yes, the best way is the Colgate Way! In fact, the Colgate Way of brushing teeth right after eating stopped more decay for more people than ever reported in dentifrice history! To help stop bad breath and tooth decay at the same time use Colgate regularly.



NO OTHER TOOTHPASTE OF ANY KIND WHATSOEVER OFFERS SUCH CONCLUSIVE PROOF! COL-33-9-2-4

THE FOURTH TEST MATCH



The stumps by and Tom Graveney is bowled by Ray Lindwall during the Fourth Test Match at Leeds between England and Australia.—Central Press Photo.

Peter May Makes Strong Bid For Test Berth

London, Aug. 8.

On the eve of the choosing of England's team for the fifth and final Test match, Peter May put forward the strongest of claims for inclusion with a chanceless 159 for Surrey.

It was his highest score, his fifth century of the season and followed recent good totals besides being the backbone of Surrey's total in their vital Championship game with Middlesex, the present leaders in the table.

In a stay of four hours, May hit one six and 17 fours. He dominated a second wicket stand of 145 with Fletcher and when he was taken at 238 for three, a huge Surrey total seemed likely.

Afterwards, Jack Young however got busy. Taking three wickets for only 11 runs, this spin bowler reached his 100 victims for the season; and he finished with four for 30, while Denis Compton's "Chinamen" gave him three for 65, and Surrey were out for one less than 300. The Middlesex opening pair survived an anxious half hour.

Most of the countries enjoying first knock passed the 300 mark, the only exception being Surrey, Leicestershire (298) and Derbyshire (151).

Bowlers dominated the Derbyshire-Northampton game in which 18 wickets fell, Tyson, regarded by some people as the fastest bowler in England, accomplished his best performance since qualifying for championship matches a month ago, when he took four Derbyshire wickets for 38 in a total of 150.

Northamptonshire, however, were in a worse plight against the varied Derbyshire attack and would have been out very cheaply but for a dogged not out display by Livingstone who has provided a chance of them taking first innings point on Monday.

Kent under new captaincy found Leicestershire batsmen, particularly left-handers Smithson and Munden difficult to dislodge late in the innings, but when a total of over 300 appeared likely, Mallett took the last three wickets cheaply.

Kent fared badly in the short time before the close, however, when the giant Brian Bosher claimed two cheap wickets.

Another Yorkshireman—there are several spread over other county sides—proved a stumbling block to the county of his birth, when Norman Horner scored a maiden century for Warwickshire in a championship match. Yorkshire faces a declared total of 377 for five on Monday, but it could have been

better, as Horner had been misused early in his innings, and other fielding lapses proved costly for a county which has won the championship so many times but is now heading for bottom place.

Essex, with their usual bright batting, reached 296 for four at tea but a collapse set in afterwards and their last four wickets fell for 48 runs. Hornefall played another delightful century and had a good partner in Trevor Bailey, saviour of England in two Tests by doggedness, who hit freely while helping Hornefall in a century stand.

A brilliant display of batting by Peter Richardson who hit 89 not out of 108 in 80 minutes after lunch, featured Worcestershire's innings against Glamorgan. He had opened the innings but was rather subdued in two hours before the first interval.

Gloucestershire played the Sussex bowling with Crapp scoring one of the quickest fifties of the day, after Emmott and Graveney had tired the rather limited attack.

An excellent batting surface was not used to advantage by Hampshire until four wickets had gone for 87 runs but then Edgar and Gray in a three figure stand, pulled the game round. Not until they had put on 179 were they parted, a recovery which enabled Hampshire to be among the five counties which passed the 300 mark.

CLOSE OF PLAY

County cricket close of play scores: At Lords: Surrey 299, (May 159, Young left-arm slow, four for 36), Middlesex 15 for no wicket.

At Cheltenham: Gloucestershire 338 for seven (Emmott 110, Tom Graveney 65; Crapp 64), versus Sussex.

At Wellington: Derbyshire 150, (Tyson, right-arm fast four for 30), Northamptonshire 129 for eight (Livingstone not out 71).

At Weston-super-Mare: Essex 343 (Avery 60, Hornefall 140, Bailey 54), Somerset 42 for no wicket.

COUNTY CRICKET STANDINGS

Positions and points of the leading teams in the County Cricket Championship and the best bowling and batting averages to date are as follows:

County Championship									
	P.	W.	L.	D.	Tied	No Dec.	Lost	Drawn	Pts
Middlesex	20	10	4	6	0	0	0	0	120
Surrey	20	10	4	6	0	0	0	0	120
Leicestershire	22	9	5	8	0	0	0	0	108
Derbyshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Sussex	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Glamorgan	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Gloucestershire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Warwickshire	22	9	5	8	0	0	0	0	108
Derbyshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Hampshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Nottinghamshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Worcestershire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Yorkshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Essex	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Somerset	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
Northamptonshire	21	8	6	7	0	0	0	0	108
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MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves	Hongkong	For
"VIETNAM"	24 Aug.	12-14 Aug.	Yokohama
"CAMBODGE"	31 July	20 Aug.	—
Homewards	Leaves	Hongkong	For
"VIETNAM"	24 Aug.	25 Aug.	Batavia
"CAMBODGE"	31 Aug.	30 Sept.	Singapore

via Marseilles to all Mediterranean & West Africa ports, via Djibouti to Madagascar.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves	Hongkong	For
"COURSEULLES"	24 Aug.	25 Aug.	Japan
"AURAY"	31 Aug.	12/14 Oct.	Japan
"IRAOUADY"	1 Sept.	8 Nov.	—
Homewards	Leaves	Hongkong	For
"COURSEULLES"	24 Aug.	25 Aug.	Japan
"AURAY"	31 Aug.	12/14 Oct.	Japan
"IRAOUADY"	1 Sept.	8 Nov.	—

† Saigon, Marseilles, Algiers, Oran, Tangiers, Casablanca, Le Havre, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Dunkirk.
Subject to change without notice.

m.v. "VIETNAM"

will sail for
YOKOHAMA AND KOBE

on
Friday, August 14, 1953, at 7 p.m.

EMBARKATION: Passengers are requested to board the vessel between 4 and 6 p.m. on Friday, August 14th.

HAGGAGE: Baggage room, hold and cabin luggage have to be registered at the Kowloon Godowns, Godown No. 50 (No. 2 Gate, Canton Road entrance) from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 2 to 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 13th, 1953.

CABIN BAGGAGE: cannot be accepted on board before embarkation time. Passengers will therefore have to collect their baggage from the godown between 4 and 6 p.m. on the 13th August, during which period, cabin baggage only may be registered.

Passengers are requested to note that ALL BAGGAGE must be registered as prescribed above.

Compagnie Des Messageries Maritimes
Queen's Building Tel: 26651

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight-refrigerator-passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Bangkok, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives Aug. 20 from Singapore.
Sails Aug. 21 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"REBEVERETT"

Arrives Aug. 28 from Manila.
Sails Aug. 29 for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong, Calcutta.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment
Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight-refrigerator-passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

"STAR ARCTURUS"

Arrives Aug. 19 from Japan.
Sails Aug. 19 for Manila.

"STAR ALCYONE"

Arrives Aug. 22 from Singapore.
Sails Aug. 23 for Naha & Japan.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment
Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A
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BUSINESS REGULATION ORDINANCE 1952

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Anomalies Of Present Rationing System In Great Britain

GOVERNMENT ACTION A NECESSITY

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Aug. 9. It becomes more obvious every day that the Government will have to do something to restore sanity to the British food rationing and pricing system.

Of the commodities still subject to control at "counter level" only sugar, butter and cheese remain effectively rationed in the sense that most housewives would buy more of them if they could.

But it is the other rationed foodstuffs that present a problem—not because there are insufficient supplies to go round but because people are not taking up their full ration.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Stock Exchange this morning amounted to \$319,000.15. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES BUYERS SELLERS SALES

GOVT. LOANS (1948) 30,000 @ 89½

BANKS

HSBC Bank Ltd 1225 1540

East Asiatic 131

INSURANCES

Union 245 810

UK Fire 150

SHIPPING

Waterboat 17.50

Asia Nav. 1.45 1½ 2000 @ 1.47½

DOCKS, ETC.

R. Wharf 84½ 85

Provision 11.00

Woolcock 8.10 8.70 1500 @ 8.65

LAND, ETC.

HSBC Hotel 7.80 7.90

UK Hotel 61 61½

Shal Land 1.40 1.47½

Utilities

Trans 24.80 3300 @ 24.80

Public Trust 42

C. Light (N) 12.30 12½

C. Light (S) 8.35 8.45

Electric 27.25 28.00

Macao Elec 9.10 9.15

Telephone 21.00 21.00

INDUSTRIALS

Comment 18.40

STOCKS, ETC.

Dairy 22½ 500 @ 22½

Watson 23

L. Crawford 24

Kowloon Sang 15 @ 15½

HONG

Two 16 @ 16½

COTTONS

Textile Corp. 5.60 5.75

Textile Markets Review

New York, Aug. 9. The textile markets continued quiet for the most of the week as traders marked time pending the official Government cotton forecast on Monday.

Cotton goods generally were steady with scattered sales of print cloths and sheetings for delivery to the end of the year. Grey cloth continued well ahead, but slowness in new business in finished goods held down activity.

Small all-in orders for nearby delivery featured the cotton yarn markets. Prices generally remained flat but forward business of non-Davos types were light although more interest was reported.

Burpee continued inactive with slight easing in values. Trade guesses were that July consumption probably approximated June's \$9 million yards, and there was speculation that steady consumption plus an expected reduction in Calcutta, Indian stocks, resulting from shipment to the Argentine might improve the market statistically.

In hard fibres, jute was inactive, hemp was steadier at a further decline. Most offerings were in Davos while offerings of non-Davos types were light although more interest was reported.

Sisal was inactive and unchanged to slightly lower. New business in rayon goods was small during the week. Demand was better for blends. A favourable market continued for the new synthetics. United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:
U.S. dollar (per \$1) 15.90
Sterling note (per £1) 10.75
Siam (per 100) 12.50
Indonesian (per 100) 22.70
Singapore (Straits) 1.20
Indo-China (per 100) 4.25

Stocks of bacon, in particular are piling up in warehouses and this surplus has culminated in the British Government having to "borrow" storage space from Denmark, its chief overseas supplier.

Recently housewives in most parts of the country have been able to buy all the meat, margarine and cooking fat they can use—or afford. The few commodities which are still effectively rationed do not warrant the maintenance of the vast apparatus of control that has been built up.

In fact a situation has been reached in which it is impossible to justify on purely economic grounds the retention of the food rationing system.

Nor could a very convincing case be made out for it on social grounds. It is useless to pretend to justify the present coupon system as ensuring equitable distribution of essential foodstuffs because what real rationing there is today is "by the purse."

COSTLY APPENDAGE

The elaborate system of control which is supposed to satisfy the political whim for "fair shares" has become merely a costly appendage of the Welfare State which in the end must make the nation poorer.

There is no doubt, however, that the Government, fully realises the futility of maintaining the whole costly machinery of rationing, at a time when rationed supplies are being left in the shops.

If it were merely a question of preserving the illusion of "fair shares" perhaps no great harm would be done. Illusions, after all, are sometimes pleasant. But the huge waste involved in retaining the rationing system long after the need for it has disappeared is exerting a quite unwarrantable strain on the limited national resources.

The saving in Government expenditure would be even greater if the food subsidies were abolished at the same time. These have become a part and parcel of the Welfare State and as such are considered practically inviolable.

If they were to be abolished now, £140 million would automatically be added to the nation's food bill. And no government that valued its popularity in the country would wish to be held responsible for that.

However, Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has already made a start on the task of dismantling the subsidies. In his 1952 Budget he reduced the total subsidies from an annual rate of £460 million to an annual rate of £220 million. But he sugared the pill by lowering the income tax and raising certain welfare benefits in food prices.

In the present financial year £430,500,000 has been devoted to subsidising the cost of food at retail level. This sum cannot be exceeded, which means that with the Government's buying prices fixed by contract, any reduction in the retail price of one subsidised foodstuff must inevitably be accompanied by a rise in the retail prices of others.

THE SNAG

This was the difficulty the Minister of Food came up against when he sought a solution to the problem of the bacon surplus. According to the basic economic law, if the price of a commodity exceeds the demand for it, its price must fall. So far so good. But if the Ministry's buying prices are fixed, a reduction in the retail price means in effect that the subsidy on the foodstuff concerned must be increased.

And if the amount of money available for subsidising food is limited, an increase in one direction must be offset by a decrease in other directions.

In order to bring about a reduction in the retail price of bacon, the Minister therefore had to make changes in the prices of other subsidised foodstuffs.

Bacon went down 1½ p. an average of 4½ p. a pound, involving an increase in the bacon subsidy at the rate of £20 million a year. But simultaneously the retail prices of sugar, butter, margarine and cooking fats have been increased and this in turn reduces the subsidies on them by £20 million a year.

Thus the equation is completed.

These price alterations have the effect of eliminating the subsidy on sugar—a logical step before its de-rating next month—and also those on margarine and cooking fats.

That on butter is reduced from an annual rate of £21 million to about £14 million.

The remaining subsidised foodstuffs—bread, flour, meat, milk, cheese and eggs—are unaffected.

PUBLIC FED UP?

An increase in the price of eggs to an average of nearly 7d each does not affect the subsidy as eggs have been returned to private trading.

It may be wondered why the nation tolerates a system that involves complicated price adjustments over a wide range of foodstuffs simply because of the temporary glut of a particular commodity.

Many politicians believe, however, that it would actually resist any attempt to abolish the system. They may well be wrong.

After all, subsidies are a gift. They have to be paid for—out of taxation—by the very people who are supposed to benefit by them most.

Commonsense remedy would be to abolish subsidies altogether and to rebury the extra cost of food to the consumer by reducing taxation.

Those who really could not afford the extra cost could be compensated for less expensive—out of increased welfare payments.

If this could be linked with the abolition of food rationing it would not only reduce Government expenditure but restore the consumer's freedom of choice.

TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE

Tokyo, Aug. 9. Trading on the Tokyo Stock Exchange was extremely brisk, and at one time hit a recent record turnover of 1,600,000 shares during the past fortnight.

The sudden extraordinary activity was said to be stimulated by the Washington news that more than half of the \$200 million of US aid for Korean rehabilitation would be spent in Japan. The announcement, said that agreement has been reached to begin work on the huge Tadami River project.

The reports lured that portion of the public that had hitherto stayed away from the Stock Exchange to come back and to place their money for investment.

Shares in which trading was active were in three categories: 1. Shares connected with Korean rehabilitation procurement; 2. Shares of textile and chemicals; 3. Trading was also strong in stocks of Morinaga Confectionery, the Meiji Confectionery, and Nippon Flour. Shares such as Ashida Beer, Kikkawa Marine, and Yoko Suisan, Heiwa Entaku, and Mitsui Realty, etc. all enjoyed brisk trading.

Outside of these categories, Sanjyo Pharmaceutical, Mitsui Chemical, and Mitsubishi Chemical shares went up largely in anticipation of increased Japan-Russia trade with relaxation of the present trade controls.

Due to the many rumors of mutual security between old and new Japan, traders hesitated in trading in high-price munition shares. United Press.

Sugar Talks Snags

Pessimism in London

London, Aug. 9. Pessimism increased this week-end among delegates to the International Sugar Conference on the chances that a successful agreement would be reached to effectively stabilise the world sugar trade.

There was an atmosphere of tension at the conference, which adjourned last night for a two-day recess, and delegates were remaining in London near their telephones while the "three-man Quota Committee" worked over its tremendous task of trying to revise its estimates of quotas for the free market.

The producing nations have requested a total of seven million tons as their annual quota for the free world market, but this market can consume only 4,500,000 tons annually, with an expected extra 500,000 tons when Britain ends rationing next month.

When the quota recommendations were reported to the conference early in the week, the cries of protest from a number of important producing countries at the cuts in their requests made it evident that an agreement was impossible without a revision of the Committee's recommendations. The Committee is now engaged on this almost impossible task and will report to the conference on Tuesday.

LITTLE CHANGE

Meanwhile, after continued study of the potentialities of the world's free market, the delegates had made it apparent that there is little chance of its expansion in the immediate future. Britain has made it clear that she will buy less and less in the free market as stocks of sugar of the Commonwealth and Colonies increase under her agreement with them. Also, the majority of the consuming countries have shown no signs that they intend to halt their programmes designed to reach self-sufficiency in sugar and eliminate exports.

Both Indonesia and Formosa appeared determined to insist on the recognition of their position as two of the world's leading sugar producers before their cane fields, both are claiming the right to rebuild their industries to their pre-war dimensions.

On the other hand, those Western countries which built up their sugar industries to feed the sugar-hungry world during wartime and the immediate post-war years, face serious economic dislocation if they cut their new flourishing sugar industries which have come to play an increasingly vital part in their economies.

Cuba is a particular case in point, with the Dominican Republic and Peru in a similar position. They complain that the present suggested quotas would spell widespread unemployment and even economic ruin. Immediately, merely to bolster up the allegedly over-optimistic plans of Indonesia and Formosa for the future of their industries. United Press.

French Trade Agreement With Brazil

Rio de Janeiro, Aug. 9. The Franco-Brazilian trade agreement has been extended for one year.

During the year ending July 14, 1954, Brazil will export to the "free zone" merchandise worth \$192,000,000 (£47,161,000). She will import from the "free zone" goods valued at \$128,000,000 (£40,030,000).

In the previous year, Brazil exported \$117 million (about £41,780,000) worth of goods to the "free zone" imported from it goods worth \$105,780,000 (about £37,779,000).

Brazil will export mainly coffee, raw cotton, tobacco, sisal, cocoa, pinewood and oranges, and will import mainly diesel machinery, petroleum refining equipment, railway materials, tractors, lead, tinplate and fertiliser.

The trade agreement, first signed in 1951, was extended for one year in 1952. United Press.

Sugar in Formosa

Taipei, Aug. 9. The Taiwan Sugar Corporation estimated that the total sugar production would be around 742,000 tons, which is 100,000 tons less than the previous production. France-Press.

INDUSTRIALS IN FAVOUR AGAIN IN LONDON

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Aug. 9. After a long period of dullness, industrial shares came back into their own last week.

Price increases were general throughout the list but the most favoured groups were heavy engineering and textiles.

Reflecting this recovery, the Financial Times index of industrial share prices has risen more than two points to 122.6 and is thus nearly nine points above the year's "low" at the end of May.

Industrial shares have been helped by a number of encouraging reports. Production is rising and unemployment is down; aircraft exports have set a new record; new car registrations have reached a post-war peak.

The list could be extended but these were the chief factors making for optimism in the industrial share market.

Last week the Iron and Steel Holding and Realisation Agency

announced its first deal.

This was a repurchase by British Irons of its interest in the Templeborough Rolling Mills. The shares were repurchased at 7.5-8, only 5-6 more than the State's take-over price.

HOPING FOR BEST

There is no guarantee that the other denationalised steel shares will be sold back on such advantageous terms but investors are hoping for the best. As a result there was keen investment demand for heavy engineering issues.

Best performers were Vickers, which rose 1½ to 50/6d, and Cammell, Laird, up 9d to 12½.

The gilt-edged market remained firm throughout most of the week but prices eased a little on Friday. This was largely due to pre-week-end profit-taking but it may also have had something to do with Friday's announcement that the week's issue of £60 million of denationalised gas stock was a success.

But success for an issue of nationalisation stock usually means that the Government departments have been heavy subscribers and this is believed to hold true for the gas issue especially as the subscription lists closed late.

This would leave the departments with large holdings of new stock to release on the market as and when conditions seem right, a prospect which does not please investors.

NOTABLE FEATURES

Notable features of the other markets were the recovery of Anglo-Iranian shares to their pre-Abadan level, and the decline, though slight, of copper shares following the sharp drop in the metal price on the reopening of the free market.

Japanese bonds made news again in the foreign bond market.

"Dollar clause" bonds have made the biggest gain. Electric were up £8 to £179, Japan 1907-24½ to £189½, and Japan 1930 £5 to £152.

This rise in the market is said to be due to American buying following the advice that London yields on Japanese Sterling bonds were higher than those obtainable on the Japanese dollar issues in New York.

Indian Cotton Expert To Visit Japan

London, Aug. 9. Mr. T. Swaminathan, the Indian Government's Textile Commissioner, is to pay a five-week visit to Japan soon to study the cotton industry there.

He plans to look into the dispersed production of the industry in Japan, with problems somewhat similar to those of India's own small-scale industry.

Mr. Swaminathan, who has been studying the organisation of the British industry for three weeks, will fly back to India at the end of this week, and will leave for Japan some days later.

During his stay in Britain Mr. Swaminathan was specially interested in the methods by which the industry had adjusted itself to post-war conditions.

He also studied the organisation of the Cotton Board and the problem of concentration of production. —Reuter.

EXTENSION OF
WHEAT PACT

President Eisenhower has signed legislation ratifying a three-year extension of the International Wheat Agreement. The agreement allows the United States a tentative export quota of 270 million bushels a year. It also established a price ranging from a minimum of \$1.35 to \$2.05 per bushel compared with \$1.80 in the previous agreement which has just expired.

The agreement provides for the four exporting countries, the United States, Australia, Canada and France—to sell 579 million bushels a year to 41 importing countries. Great Britain has refused to sign the agreement so far. If she continues to object, the quotas must be scaled down to offset 177 million bushels allotted to Britain. —United Press.

Indian Goods Affected

In an address to the Surat Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Maneklal Kapadia, a leading merchant from Rangoon, and former President of the Burma-India Chamber of Commerce, warned that cheaper Japanese power-loom textiles were ousting Indian goods.

He suggested that the Indian Government should reduce the high import duty on raw materials such as silk yarn and the various taxes, including the export duty, which were responsible for the high prices of Indian textiles.

The overseas markets, he said, were being captured by Japanese and British manufacturers because they were fully backed by their governments. —France-Press.

Ship Service Extended

San Francisco, Aug. 9. Extension of the service by the Japanese shipping company, Nippon Yusen Kaisha Ltd., of Kobe to the west coast of South America by way of U.S. Pacific coast ports, has been announced.

The service will start with the Kazukawa, Maru, sailing from Japan about September 16, with calls at Vancouver, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, and then to Callao, Peru, and then to Callao and South America. Other vessels following at regular intervals will return to Japan by way of the outgoing course. —China Times.

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Page 10

MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 1953.

"Revelations" At Trial Of North Korean Officials

London, Aug. 10. Details of an alleged American plan to "buy up" high-ranking North Korean officials were revealed during a purge trial at Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, four days ago, the Communist New China News Agency reported today.

On trial before a military tribunal were 12 North Korean officials, accused of spying for the United States and planning to overthrow the Communist regime.

Ten were sentenced to death and the other two to terms of imprisonment.

The agency named the men in a message received here as Li Yung Sub, Zo Il Myung, Rim Ha, Bok Seung Wun, Li Kang, Kih, Bechel, Malang, Chang Ho, Zo Yong Bok, Sol Jung Sik, Bak Hwang Bok, Yun Swun Tal and Li Wun Cho.

Three Americans were named in the evidence given to the tribunal — Horace Underwood, "adviser to the United States Army counter intelligence corps espionage agency in Seoul," Robert Robinson, "an army officer," and Lieutenant-General John R. Hodge, "commander of the United States Army in South Korea."

The North Koreans were said to have handed over reports on conditions in North Korea, details of army equipment and garrison forces and confidential Communist Party information in an attempt to "establish a capitalist regime with American help."

Kim Ik Sun, Chief Justice of the North Korean Supreme Court, presided at the specially convened tribunal. The court was packed during the trial and microphones relayed evidence to people outside.

IMPORTANT POSTS

All the accused held high ranking jobs. Li Yung Sub was Chairman of the Government's People's Supervisory Committee, Zo Il Myung, Vice-Minister of Culture and Propaganda, Rim Ha was Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the North Korean-Soviet Cultural Association, and Li Kang Kik, Director of the Government's Foreign Affairs Committee.

Bechel and Yun Swun Tal were Deputy Directors of the Central Committee's Liaison Department; Li Wun Cho Deputy Director of Propaganda; Bak Hwang Bok was named as a former head of an investigation sub-office of the South Korean Interior Ministry's Security Bureau; Zo Yong Bok a high-ranking member of the People's Supervisory Committee; Malang Chong Ho, commander of a detachment of Communist guerrillas; and Sol Jung Sik was a member of the Supreme Command's Political Bureau.

Yun Swun Tal and Li Wun Cho both escaped the death sentence. Yun Swun Tal was sentenced to 15 years and Li Wun Cho to 12 years imprisonment and their property confiscated.

The prosecution alleged that since their forces first landed in South Korea, the United States Army had made use of the country's revolutionary elements and infiltrated into Communist territory to overthrow the North Korean Government.

In February the American espionage agencies "bought over" Li Yung Sub and Zo Il Myung, then director of the Editorial Board of the Communist Party's "Liberation Daily" and other people to conduct espionage activities.

Li Yung Sub confessed he had established connection with the political adviser to Lieutenant-General Hodge, then Commander of the United States Army in South Korea, and pledged himself to support American policy, the agency reported.

Since March 1946, the traitors had taken advantage of their posts in the Communist Party to hand over organizational and other confidential information to the American espionage agency to undermine the unity of the Party, it added.

Commission To Settle Disputes

London, Aug. 10. Russia and Persia have agreed to set up a joint commission in Tehran to settle all differences between the two countries, the official Soviet news agency, Tass, reported early today.

The agency said the aim of this commission will be "to strengthen existing friendly relations and settle financial, frontier and other problems."

KASHMIR CRISIS

(Continued from Page 1)

party's annual conference until the question of Kashmir's future had been thrashed out inside the party's executive meeting on August 24.

The Cabinet crisis precipitated the issue and Abdullah was dismissed after one of his colleagues refused to resign at his request.

Bakshi, who is generally regarded as more pro-Indian than Abdullah, will be generally welcomed as Premier by Indians.

Sheikh Abdullah, the dismissed Premier, and 48-year-old "Lion of Kashmir," had had five years of undisputed rule.

Leader in the fight against the first British rule for more than 20 years, he himself assumed an almost autocratic position when he took over in 1947 as Kashmir's Prime Minister.

While Bakshi went to gain four times, Abdullah went to gain nine times during the struggle to end the Maharajah's rule.

When tribesmen invaded the State in 1947, he agreed to the accession to India to save the State from the invaders and preserve some measure of autonomy. But, in May last year, the first signs of a turning point in Abdullah's attitude towards India came. He began to allude to Hindu Communism as being as much to be feared as Moslem Communism.

"DELHI AGREEMENT"

Later in the year, he went to Delhi, met the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, and drew up what is known as the "Delhi agreement" giving Kashmir its own flag and state President but indicating that some form of financial integration between Kashmir and India would be worked out in due course.

Troubles broke out last November, however, in the Jammu area of the State led by the Hindu extremist Prasad Parishad Party, who opposed a separate flag and President and demanded a complete merger with India.

This in turn provoked reaction in the Valley.

Abdullah's chief henchman, Revenue Minister Mir Afzal Beg Bakshi, today reported as arrested with Abdullah, began propagating the idea of independence for Kashmir.

Abdullah's speeches denounced Hindu Communism, played down the Delhi agreement and declared that, whatever happened, the Kashmir people would maintain their freedom.

MEASURES

The Kashmir Government tonight released the text of a memorandum sent to Sheikh Abdullah on Friday by three of his Cabinet colleagues, Bakshi, Dogra and Saraf.

It accused Abdullah of having "unilaterally sought to precipitate a rupture in the relationship of the State with India."

"Though it is true that the people of the State have the ultimate right to decide their future, the conditions of chaos and confusion which are being engineered today by you are bound to be fatal for the exercise of the right of self-determination by our people," it said.

"Under these circumstances, what seems inevitable is that interested foreign Powers may well take advantage of and exploit the situation for their own selfish interests."

The memorandum added that want of vigilance in the administration under Abdullah had produced corruption, nepotism, inefficiency and wanton wastage of public resources.

What's Her Line? Solution LAND GIRL
London Express Service.

Successful Operation



"Operation Hironelle" is carried out by French Union Forces when parachute jumping over Langson, near the Tonkin-Chinese border. The operation was successful with hardly any casualties. The equivalent of three months supplies from China were lost in material to the Vietnamese rebel forces. —London Express.

Sentence Doubled By Appeal Judge

Chan Hung-fong, 25, who was convicted and sentenced to nine months for breach of deportation order, had his sentence doubled by the Puisne Judge, Mr Justice C. W. Reece when he appealed against severity of sentence in the Appeal Court this morning.

Mr G. R. Sneath, Crown Counsel, said that appellant had a number of previous convictions. Appellant said when he was last deported he was sent across the border to Shum Chun where he was detained by the authorities for two months and then sent back to Hongkong. He declared he had no intention of returning here.

He said he had been in Hongkong for seven or eight years. He started to earn a living by hawking but was arrested so many times that he lost his capital. He finally resorted to stealing. He asked the Court to reduce the sentence.

Mr Justice Reece said that according to the records appellant had been deported a number of times and it was obvious that the previous sentences on appellant did not seem to make any impression on him. His Lordship said that appellant had been a nuisance to everybody and instead of reducing the sentence he would double it. He accordingly ordered the sentence to be increased to 18 months so that it would serve as a lesson to appellant and others like him.

Govt Hauls Down Colours

(Continued from Page 1)

on their wages bill for a housing fund.

4. State guaranteed loans will be granted to civil servants to help them build their own homes.

5. Various economies will be effected by not filling certain vacant posts for temporary Government employees, by cash settlement for war damage claims and by tightening up the administrative services of the Army. There will be stricter Government control of the finance and accounting of nationalised industries and public bodies.

6. Measures are to be taken against price cartels to ensure "the maintenance or re-establishment of free industrial and commercial competition."

7. The Government had decided to reduce its civil investment budget for the next year from 220,000,000 Francs to 100,000,000 Francs. An important part of the civil investment budget will be devoted to a concentrated attempt to provide housing accommodation throughout the country. A further series of economy and reform decrees will be announced on August 25. —Reuter.

MEN CHARGED WITH ILLEGALLY CARRYING ON BANKING BUSINESS

Three men stood trial before Judge W. A. Blair-Kerr at the Victoria District Court this morning on charges of transacting a banking business other than by a company and using the word "bank" contrary to the Banking Ordinance.

The accused, Lam Ming-yin alias Lam Sau-shan alias Yuen Yick-lam, Lau Kam-tong, and Ho Shang-san, were alleged to have carried on an illegal banking business at 10 Des Voeux Road West.

Five Appeals Dismissed

Five appeals against severity of sentence were dismissed by the Puisne Judge, Mr Justice C. W. Reece in the Appeal Court this morning.

Three of the appellants were convicted and fined \$1,000 or six months for keeping an unlicensed massage establishment, while in two cases of common assault, the appellants were sentenced to six and nine months respectively.

Chan Shu-shun, 42, unemployed, told his Lordship that he was not the owner of the massage establishment. He had been in Hongkong for 18 years and had never committed any offence before.

Mr G. R. Sneath, Crown Counsel, said that the premises had been raided five times previously. Appellant apparently took a risk deliberately on the chance that he would not be the person to suffer if arrested. Crown Counsel added that when the premises were raided appellant was the manager.

Mr Justice Reece said it was stated on the records that the establishment had been raided many times and on each occasion a different man was on the premises. Dismissing the appeal, his Lordship said he would not interfere with the Magistrate's decision. He advised appellant not to put himself in that position again.

ODD JOB MAN

Flooding that he did not know what sort of an establishment it was, Yam Kit 52, unemployed, said he was employed for only one day to do odd jobs. He thought the premises were used as a public bath. The appeal was dismissed.

Lau On-yuen, 39, said he went to the premises to take a bath when the Police raided them. He said he did not plead guilty at the Magistrate's, as he did not know the Cantonese dialect. His appeal also was rejected.

Three weavers of the Kowloon Textile Factory, Lau Ching-ming, 22; Yip Sze-sun, 22; and Chan Sun-hop, 22, declared to Mr Justice Reece that they never took part in the assault.

The three appellants who were convicted of common assault and given six months by Mr Creedon, said they were wrongly arrested and asked his Lordship to investigate into the matter.

AMPLE EVIDENCE

Dismissing the appeals, his Lordship said he had given great consideration to the matter and had read the record carefully.

He said that the three men had been identified as having taken part in the assault. The matter had been carefully considered by the Magistrate and he had come to the conclusion that the complainant was not telling a lie when he said that appellants assaulted him. He was satisfied that there was ample evidence to convict.

A temporary worker of the Pao Shing Textile Factory, Pang Suck-wing, 21, told Mr Justice Reece that he had not in any way injured the complainant.

Pang was convicted of common assault and sentenced to nine months by Mr Creedon on July 8.

His appeal was dismissed.

VISITING SHIPS

Five American destroyers steamed into port yesterday afternoon on a short recreational visit to Hongkong.

The destroyers, whose displacement tons range from 2,050 to 2,400, are Pickens, Potter, Irwin, Preston and Gurke.

The charges alleged that on divers dates between April 1, 1953, and April 23, 1953, the three accused, not being a company within the meaning of the Banking Ordinance, transacted a banking business; and that during the same period the accused, not being a company licensed to carry on a banking business, used the word "bank" in the name under which the business was carried on, namely, the Hop Kee Bank.

The first accused is defended by Mr Alfred Y. Hon, Mr Patrick Yu, instructed by Mr Francis Wong, is representing the second and third accused.

Mr D. F. O'Reilly-Mayne, Crown Counsel, is prosecuting, assisted by Det.-Sub-Inspector A. Clough, of the Commercial Crime Branch.

Mr O'Reilly-Mayne told the Court that it was the Crown's case that the three accused started their business on or about April 1 and carried it on for about three weeks at 10 Des Voeux Road West, ground floor.

It appeared that prior to this, he went on there had been a licensed bank, the Sui Cheong Bank, occupying the premises. The proprietor of this bank, however, stopped his business some time in 1952, and surrendered his banking licence.

The premises were subsequently subject to the accused, the agreement for which was actually signed by the second accused.

Crown Counsel stated further that evidence would be given on the collection of cheques drawn on the banking business of the accused, and money paid by customers to the bank, and also of the making out of remittance money to Taiwan through the bank.

Mr O'Reilly-Mayne stressed that, during the period in question, the accused were never in possession of a licence required under the Banking Ordinance, and had never applied for such a licence.

The first witness was Chan Ng-ping, former proprietor of the now non-existent Sui Cheong. He testified that some time about the middle of 1952, he found his business was bad, so he decided to close down the bank and surrender his licence.

MEETS ACCUSED

Towards the end of March this year, he had a conversation with one Lam Wing-fai, as a result of which he was introduced by Lam to Ho Shang-san, the third accused. At a later meeting arranged between them, third accused told him that he wanted to sublet his (witness's) office premises, saying that he wanted to start an import and export business.

Witness said Ho told him further that if he was not successful in carrying on this line of business, he would start a currency exchange business. He had another meeting with third accused afterwards, but nothing concrete was agreed upon at both these meetings.

Chan went on to say that he let his son, Chan Chin-man, handle this affair, and eventually Chan handed him an agreement relating to the subletting of the premises to the accused. It was written in English, though, and he could not understand it. The three accused moved in some time in March this year, and set up a signboard of their own inside the premises.

Cross-examined by Mr Yu, witness said that the banking licence which he used to have was renewable each year. He could not tell the exact date the last time he had the licence renewed.

Further questioned, witness said he had also been in possession of a money-changer's licence. However, when he let the premises to the second accused, this licence at the time had already expired.

Evidence was then given by Lam Wing-fai, partner of the Ming Fat Gold and Silver Exchange, who said that he acted as a middle-man in the procuring of the premises at 10 Des Voeux Road West on behalf of the third accused.

Hearing is proceeding.

Radio Hongkong

R.H.T. Time Signal and Programme

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OFFER REFUSED

The respondents were offered the sum of \$2,100, the alleged net profit of the respondents, in the 22 chests, but this they refused to accept. The respondents, in due course, brought an action against the appellant for the non-delivery of the opium and laid their damages claim for the value of the opium. The respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore. The appellant had this into Court, and the respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore.

The case was eventually tried, and a verdict given for the respondents on behalf of the appellant, amounting to \$2,100. The respondents were not satisfied with the verdict, and they appealed to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal, in its judgment, found that the respondents were not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore. The appellant had this into Court, and the respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore.

The respondents were not satisfied with the verdict, and they appealed to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal, in its judgment, found that the respondents were not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore. The appellant had this into Court, and the respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore.

"You're wrong about the boss being an old soberalder—when I told him I was worth twice what I'm getting, he laughed!"

Printed and published by WILLIAM ALICE GREENHAM for and on behalf of South China Morning Post Limited at 1-3 Wyndham Street, City of Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong.

From the Files 100 Years Ago

To the Editor of "China Mail".

Dear Sir,—I find in this morning's Register one of its usual ponderous editorials on the subject of the trial of Lo Ahoi, for misprision of felony. If I do not misunderstand the writer's meaning, it is that depositions are not to be resorted to without corroboration, but that hearsay evidence in all cases would to him be perfectly satisfactory. Now, I am sorry to differ from your contemporary, but though I, like you and him, could not think of consulting depositions alone, still I confess should prefer them to hearsay evidence, considering a written statement, taken down by a Magistrate immediately after the occurrence, and sworn to and signed by the deponent, as immaterial more to be relied on than an act of memory on the part of any individual, however trustworthy, to whom the principal may have related his story. Besides, hearsay testimony is never received in a criminal court, and I believe what Mr. Inspector McKenzie was told by Captain Montgomery, very properly had no weight with the jury.

I nevertheless so far coincide in opinion with the Register, as to think that something should be done to punish Chinese who callously look on in cases of street robbery; but agree with you in thinking the amount of such punishment might very well be left to the discretion of the Chief Magistrate.—I am, Sir, your,

L. P. D.

APPEAL DECISION

The following brief report of the appeal of the respondents (C. O. Co.) v. Don & Co. has just been received by the General Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, June 22.

The Members of the Council present today were, the Right Hon. Lord Pemberton Leigh, the Right Hon. Sir Patrick Atkin, the Right Hon. Sir Edward Rieu, and the Judge of the Admiralty Court.

Tronson v. Dent and others.—This was an appeal against a judgment of the Supreme Court of Justice in Hongkong and its dependencies, upon the verdict of a jury in an action of assumpsit, in which the respondents were the plaintiffs, and the appellant was the defendant.

The facts out of which the appeal arose are briefly as follows:—In the month of July 1851, the appellant was Commander of a steamship called the Frit, belonging to the (Peninsular & Oriental) Steam Navigation Company, then lying in the river, at the port of Calcutta. The respondents carried on an extensive business at Hongkong. On the 11th of July, 1851, Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot & Co. delivered to the appellant, as Commander of the Frit, at Calcutta, 70 chests of opium, all in good condition, to be delivered to the respondents at Hongkong. On the arrival of the Frit at Hongkong, on the 12th of August, the respondents applied to the appellant to deliver the opium in the terms of the bill of lading. The appellant delivered 48 chests out of the 70 chests, and informed the respondents that the remaining 22 chests had been injured by sea water, which had entered the Frit in consequence of a collision with a ship. The respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore. The appellant had this into Court, and the respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore.

The respondents were not satisfied with the verdict, and they appealed to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal, in its judgment, found that the respondents were not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore. The appellant had this into Court, and the respondents replied that the opium was not so injured as to make the 22 chests of opium at the port of Singapore.

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